

Message Text

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64

ACTION DLOS-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 AF-10 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-14 RSC-01

CG-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-07 PA-04 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 FEA-02 AID-20

CEQ-02 COA-02 COME-00 EB-11 EPA-04 IO-14 NSF-04

SCI-06 ACDA-19 AEC-11 AGR-20 DOTE-00 FMC-04 INT-08

JUSE-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 OIC-04 DRC-01 /291 W

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R 011630Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4420

INFO AMEMBASSY QUITO

AMEMBASSY LIMA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

MEXICO 1481

C O N F I D E N T I A L CARACAS 5971

FROM US DEL LOS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PLOS

SUBJECT: LOS: COSTA RICA AND THE FISHERIES PROBLEM

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

PARTICIPANTS: AMBASSADOR JOHN R. STEVENSON, CHAIRMAN US

DELEGATION

AMBASSADOR DONALD MCKERNAN

MR. HOWARD POLLOCK

MR. VIRGIL RANDOLPH

FOREIGN MINISTER GONZALO FACIO - CHAIRMAN,

COSTA RICAN DELEGATION TO LOS CONFERENCE

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LIC. MARIO BLANCO - COSTA RICAN DELEGATE

DATE & PLACE: JUNE 26, 1974; U.S. DELEGATION OFFICE,
PARQUE CENTRAL, CARACAS

1. DR. FACIO SAID HE HAD TO RETURN TO SAN JOSE ABOUT JUNE 30 BUT WOULD RETURN TO CARACAS ONCE OR TWICE DURING THE COURSE OF THE CONFERENCE. HE SAID THE LATIN AMERICAN GROUP WOULD BE MEETING THE MORNING OF JUNE 26 AND WOULD PROBABLY ELECT AS ITS CHAIRMAN DR. REYNALDO GALINDO POHL, EL SALVADOR'S REPRESENTATIVE TO THE CONFERENCE (AND THAT COUNTRY'S AMBASSADOR TO THE U.N.) DR. FACIO STATED THE COSTA RICAN POSITION ON LOS MATTERS IS ALMOST IDENTICAL WITH THE US IN ALL RESPECTS, AND THAT HE WOULD BE MAKING A STATEMENT BEFORE THE CONFERENCE IN GENERAL DEBATE ON JUNE 28. IN HIS STATEMENT HE WILL BE EXPLICIT AS TO THE PATRIMONIAL SEA, WILL EXPRESS SUPPORT FOR INTERNATIONAL MANAGEMENT OF TUNA AND WILL REAFFIRM COSTA RICA'S POSITION ON INTERNATIONAL STRAITS (SIMILAR TO THE US).

2. AMBASSADOR STEVENSON EXPRESSED REGRET THAT DR. FACIO WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO ATTEND THE ENTIRE CONFERENCE AND SERVE AS THE LATIN AMERICAN CHAIRMAN. HE EXPRESSED HIS DESIRE TO WORK CLOSELY AND FRUITFULLY WITH AMBASSADOR GALINDO POHL. AMBASSADOR STEVENSON ASKED DR. FACIO ABOUT THE ATTITUDE OF OTHER LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES AS TO THE FISHERIES PROBLEM.

3. DR. FACIO INDICATED THAT PERU SEEMED NOT TO BE QUITE SO CONCERNED ABOUT STANDING FIRM IN FAVOR OF A 200-MILE TERRITORIAL SEA AS KEEPING ITS RESOURCE ZONE SUBJECT TO COASTAL STATE CONTROL. MEXICO, AS A MEMBER OF THE INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA CONVENTION (IATTC) WAS MORE MODERATE AS TO THE FISHERIES PROBLEM. ECUADOR, HE AGREED, WAS THE MOST INTRANSIGENT COUNTRY WITH REGARD TO FISHERIES, BUT HE FELT THAT ROOM TO MANEUVER EXISTS WITH REGARD TO COMING TO SOME SORT OF AGREEMENT FOR INTERNATIONAL CONTROL OF HIGHLY MIGRATORY FISH. AMBASSADOR STEVENSON SUGGESTED THAT SOME SORT OF FORMULA MIGHT BE FOUND BY WHICH REFERENCE WOULD BE MADE TO ECUADOR'S SOVEREIGNTY BUT WHICH WOULD GIVE CONTROL OVER HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES TO AN INTERNATIONAL BODY, SINCE ECUADOR'S PRINCIPAL CONCERN IS TO INCREASE ITS FISHING INDUSTRY.

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4. IN THIS CONNECTION AMBASSADOR MCKERNAN OBSERVED THAT THE IATTC WAS PROVING MOST SUCCESSFUL, THAT COSTA RICA'S AND MEXICO'S CATCHES WERE STEADILY INCREASING, AND THAT THE MEMBERS ARE WORKING WELL WITH EACH OTHER. DR. FACIO ENTHUSIASTICALLY AGREED, AND MORE DISCUSSION BROUGHT AGREEMENT THAT ECUADOR MAY WELL BE INDUCED TO AGREE TO INTERNATIONAL SUPERVISION OF HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES, STRESSING THE DEMONSTRATED BENEFITS TO CONSERVATION TO THE SPECIES, AND HENCE GREATER CATCH POSSIBILITIES

FOR ECUADOR AND THE OTHER COASTAL STATES. IT WAS ALSO AGREED THAT ONCE PART OF AN INTERNATIONAL REGULATORY GROUP WHOSE EFFORTS WOULD RESULT IN INCREASED FISH STOCKS, AS IS PROVING THE CASE WITH THE IATTC, ECUADOR WOULD FIND IT IN ITS INTERESTS TO WORK WELL WITH THE GROUP.

5. AMBASSADOR STEVENSON SAID HE WAS ENCOURAGED BY THIS DISCUSSION, AND THAT THIS DELEGATION WOULD WORK CLOSELY WITH THE COSTA RICAN, ECUADOREANS, AND OTHERS TO REACH AGREEMENT ON THE FISHERIES PROBLEM.
STEVENSON

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